

~~SECRET~~

EYES ONLY

PP WTEB HYANNISPORT

DE WTE 3Y

FROM: SMITH

TO : CLIFTON FOR THE PRESIDENT

CITE: CAP5173-61

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FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS FROM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

324, JULY 29, 1 AM

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EMBTEL 323

BOTH KHRUSHCHEV'S AND MY STATEMENTS ABBREVIATED REFTTEL THOUGH
I MADE FULL USE OF ARGUMENTS CONTAINED IN OUR NOTE AND OTHER
MATERIAL IN MY HANDS. IN SUMMARY, KHRUSHCHEV WAS CORDIAL ON
WEDNESDAY BUT FIRM IN REITERATING HIS VIENNA POSITION.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

12-31-74

By [redacted] NARS, Date 12-31-74

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REALLY MAD ON THURSDAY AFTER DIGESTING PRESIDENT'S SPEECH. USED ROUGH WAR-LIKE LANGUAGE RETURNING TO CORDIALITY AFTER THE STORM HAD PASSED. FREQUENT REPETITION THIS FORMULA: WILL SIGN PEACE TREATY NO MATTER WHAT; OCCUPATION RIGHTS THEREUPON CEASE, ACCESS CUT OFF, AND NECESSARY THEN TO MAKE A DEAL WITH GDR; IF YOU ATTEMPT FORCE WAY THROUGH WE WILL OPPOSE BY FORCE; WAR BOUND TO BE THERMONUCLEAR AND THOUGH YOU AND WE MAY SURVIVE ALL YOUR EUROPEAN ALLIES WILL BE COMPLETELY DESTROYED. GATHERED FROM AMBASSADORS HERE THAT SOVIETS WERE MAKING THIS ARGUMENT TO OUR ALLIES HINTING THAT THEY WOULD NOT FOLLOW US IN ANY WAR MOVES. ALL THIS FOLLOWED BY OFFERS TO NEGOTIATE PEACE TERMS, GUARANTEE ACCESS AND SETTLE GERMAN PROBLEM AS THE ONLY SERIOUS ONE BETWEEN US. MY ESTIMATE IS SITUATION PROBABLY NOT REPEAT NOT YET RIPE FOR ANY NEGOTIATION PROFFERS BY US BUT TOO DANGEROUS TO PERMIT IT DRIFT INTO A CONDITION WHERE CRAMPED TIME COULD WELL LEAD TO UNFORTUNATE ACTION.

INTEND TO PROCEED PARIS TO BRIEF NAC AS SOON AS I CLOSE HERE. WOULD APPRECIATE INSTRUCTIONS HOW FAR I MAY GO IN BRIEFING THEM ON KHRUSHCHEV'S COMMENTS ON BERLIN. THOMPSON AND I SENSE SOVIETS

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WILL BE PRESSING ALLIES WITH THREATS OF DESTRUCTION TO WEAKEN THEIR DETERMINATION TO GO ALONG WITH US.

THOMPSON BELIEVES IT WISE TO EMPHASIZE THIS IN PARIS, STRESSING VITAL NECESSITY FOR THEIR FIRMNESS AT THIS POINT.

ASSUME NO REPEAT NO QUESTION PROPRIETY MY BRIEFING THEM ON DISARMAMENT. LYON HINTS DEGAULLE MAY WISH SEE ME PARIS. ASSUME I CAN TALK FREELY WITH HIM RE KHRUSHCHEV'S COMMENTS IF INTERVIEW SHOULD TAKE PLACE.

NOTE: THIS MESSAGE AND ONE FOLLOWING IMMEDIATELY ARE BEING CONSIDERED URGENTLY BY SECRETARY RUSK

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DTG: 291100Z